GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1251
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2015
Aavishkar Abhiyaan
Simha Shri Prathap

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched the APJ Abdul Kalam Rashtriya Aavishkar Abhiyaan in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the purpose behind launching it;

(c) whether the Government has allocated additional funds for its implementation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to implement the Abhiyaan?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Human Resource Development has launched Rashtriya Aavishkar Abhiyan (RAA) programme on 09.07.2015, inter alia, as sub-components of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), to motivate and engage children of the age group from 6-18 years in Science, Mathematics and Technology through observation, experimentation, inference drawing, model building, etc. both through inside and outside classroom activities and processes.

The strategy of the programme is to target teachers, students, effective classroom transaction, school facilities for Science and Mathematics, and community engagement. The key activities include mentoring of schools by Institutions of Higher Education; formation of Mathematics and Science Clubs; participation of children in Science Congress; formation of teacher circles and participation of teachers in Teachers Science Congress. The programme guidelines have laid down concrete measurable milestones for 5 years.

(c) & (d): The funding for activities under RAA comes from SSA and RMSA for various components like In-service Teacher Training of Mathematics and Science teachers at upper primary level, Learning Enhancement Programme, Computer Aided Learning and innovations. During the year 2015-16, the Central Government has sanctioned Rs 286.52 cr. to States/UTs out of which Rs. 136.52 Cr. for teacher training, Learning Enhancement Programme (LEP), Innovation and Rs. 150 cr. for Computer Aided Learning (CAL).

(e): The guidelines and suggested activities of RAA have been sent to all State Education Departments. 30 States/UTs have nominated Nodal Officers for Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan. 7 States/UTs, namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Nagaland and Punjab have formed their State Level Steering Committees (SLSC) to take forward activities of RAA.

A two day workshop was organized on 16-17 November 2015 for orientation of Nodal Officers of States/UT's SSA/RMSA and Institutions of Higher Education. A joint road map for the implementation of activities for the coming months was developed in the workshop.

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